

Durham Environmental Affairs Board
Tuesday, March 29, 2000, 6:00 PM
Durham City Hall, 2nd Floor Committee Room

Meeting Notes

Chairman, Joseph Jackson, called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. Members in attendance were Jim Conner, Ed Harrison, Steve Hiltner, Joseph Jackson, Marion Johnson-Thompson, David Kirkpatrick, Brian Morton, and Dock Terrell. Staff members in attendance were Sue Burke, Doug Vaughn, Alex Waddell, and Glen Whisler. Members with an excused absence were Hunter Bacot and Jerad Bales.

Meeting Notes: Meeting notes from February 22, 2000 meeting were approved.

Board Membership: Ed Harrison has approached Fred Broadwell concerning the vacant City Energy slot. Judy Kincaid was also mentioned to fill the soon to be vacated City Solid Waste slot. Both will need to submit applications to the City Clerk.

Smart Growth Summit Meeting: Joe Jackson summarized the March 21, 1999 meeting. He also asked those members who were unable to attend to fill out the survey, which was distributed at the meeting.

Stormwater Management Strategies: Vegetation management and alternative methods for streams to prevent erosion were discussed. A demonstration area along Ellerbee Creek is to be started this spring within the Watts-Hillandale neighborhood, demonstrating selective pruning as an alternative to the periodic bush-hogging of stream banks currently practiced in city parks. One issue is that the majority of land adjacent to streams is privately owned. Joe will invite someone from Parks and Recreation to discuss the procedures and protocols within the City of Durham park boundaries. Stormwater runoff was also discussed. Concern was raised about the increasing impact of stormwater on water quality in urban creeks. The likelihood of ever reducing or even stabilizing both qualitative and quantitative impacts, given current ordinances and development practices, was also discussed. The State requirements for stormwater runoff say peak flow off a newly developed site can not exceed by more than 10% that of its undeveloped state.

Travel Demand Management: Brian attended the Public Hearing by the Durham Board of County Commissioners on February 28, 2000. BOCC adopted a plan for major employers to develop plans and goals to reduce the number single occupant vehicles. This plan will be phased in over a number of years starting with employers of 400 or more people. The County of Durham (2-28-2000) and the City of Durham (3-20-2000) adopted amendments to the Zoning Ordinance regarding Travel Demand Management TDM initiatives.

Adequate Public Facilities: Jim Conner gave a short report on the meetings he has attended and suggests the interrelationships between schools, parks, roads, etc are very important

Guess Road Widening: A causeway associated with the Guess Road widening was destroyed by a recent storm. Brian suggested we extend an invitation to the contractor to give an accounting of the incident.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Notes prepared by Alex Waddell, Durham City-County Planning